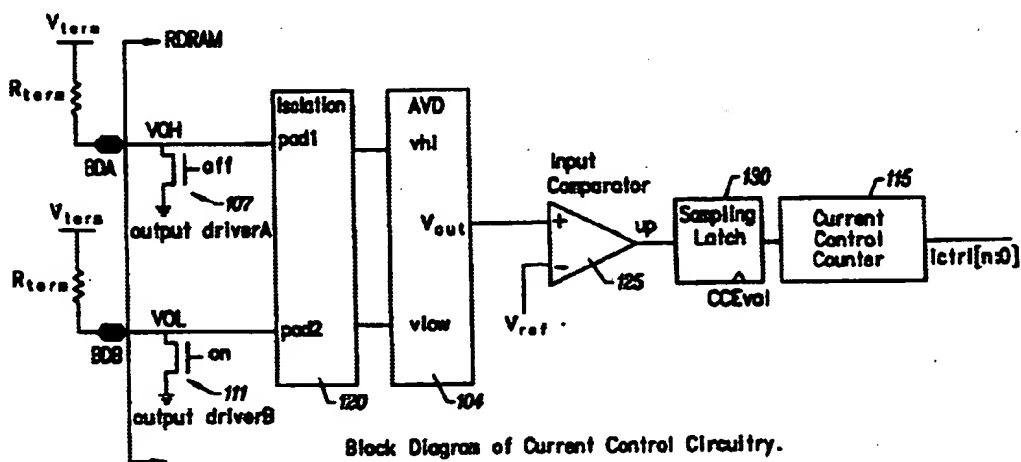


INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

| | | | |
|---|-----------|---|--|
| (51) International Patent Classification 6 : H03K 19/0175 | A1 | (11) International Publication Number: WO 99/10982 | |
| | | (43) International Publication Date: 4 March 1999 (04.03.99) | |
| (21) International Application Number: PCT/US98/17942 | | (81) Designated States: CA, JP, KR, European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE). | |
| (22) International Filing Date: 27 August 1998 (27.08.98) | | | |
| (30) Priority Data: 60/057,400 29 August 1997 (29.08.97) US 60/073,353 2 February 1998 (02.02.98) US | | Published <i>With international search report.</i> <i>Before the expiration of the time limit for amending the claims and to be republished in the event of the receipt of amendments.</i> | |
| (71) Applicant: RAMBUS INCORPORATED [US/US]; 2465 Latham Street, Mountain View, CA 94040 (US). | | | |
| (72) Inventors: GARRETT, Billy, Wayne, Jr.; 928 Wright Avenue #405, Mountain View, CA 94043 (US). DILLON, John, B.; 177 Monroe Drive, Palo Alto, CA 94036 (US). CHING, Michael, Tak-Kei; 1283 Vicente Drive #209, Sunnyvale, CA 94086 (US). STONECYPHER, William, F.; 1574 Willowbrook Drive, San Jose, CA 95118 (US). CHAN, Andy, Peng-Pui; 2968 Tantalum Court, San Jose, CA 95132 (US). GRIFFIN, Matthew, M.; 360 Apricot Lane, Mountain View, CA 94043 (US). | | | |
| (74) Agents: GALLIANI, William, S. et al.; Flehr Hohbach Test Albritton & Herbert LLP, Suite 3400, 4 Embarcadero Center, San Francisco, CA 94111-4187 (US). | | | |

(54) Title: CURRENT CONTROL TECHNIQUE



(57) Abstract

An output driver circuit and current control technique to facilitate high-speed buses with low noise is used to interface with high-speed dynamic RAMs (DRAMs). The architecture includes the following components: an input isolation block (120), an analog voltage divider (104), an input comparator (125), a sampling latch (130), a current control counter (115), and a bitwise output driver (output driver A 107 and output driver B 111).

BEST AVAILABLE COPY